## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 15, 2003

The Honorable Michael Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

We write to you today to express our serious concern about the proposed sale of Global Crossing, Ltd. ("Global Crossing") to a company owned and controlled by a foreign government.

It has been reported that the withdrawal by Hutchison Whampoa from the proposed transaction will result in lessened scrutiny of the transaction by the Federal Communications Commission and other government officials. However, it is our understanding that, due to Hutchison Whampoa's withdrawal, Singapore Technologies Telemedia Pte Ltd – which is wholly owned by the Government of Singapore – now proposes to obtain control of Global Crossing. Such substantial ownership and control of U.S. critical infrastructure and other telecommunications assets by a foreign government – even a friendly government such as Singapore – raises serious concerns about U.S. security and competitive telecommunications markets. It also raises questions about whether approval would be possible in view of statutory limits on foreign ownership set forth in Sections 310(a) and (b) of the Communications Act of 1934.

We understand that Global Crossing has asked the Commission to expedite consideration of its revised transaction. We do not believe this would be consistent with the Commission's statutory obligations.

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We urge you and the Commission to thoroughly probe this transaction, giving thorough consideration to Congressional intent regarding foreign ownership.

With kind regards,

Conrad Burns

Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Sincerely,

Ernest F/Hollings

Senate Committee on Commerce Science, and Transportation

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Kevin Martin
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein

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